

#### CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: March 22, 2011

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager

Through: Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager

From: Donald F. Greeley, Director, Water Management

Vicki Westbrook, Assistant Director, Water Management

Subject: Supplemental Article # 3 for Jordan Lake Partnership, Contract with

Hazen & Sawyer to Conduct Water Interconnection Study for Partners.

#### **Executive Summary:**

In March 2008, the City Council adopted a Resolution Supporting Regional Partnerships for Water Supply Planning and the Establishment of a Western Water Intake on the B. Everett Jordan Reservoir. Following that action, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed and approved by 12 entities in the greater Triangle area. The MOU establishes Durham as the lead agency for general activities regarding a Jordan Lake Regional Water Supply Partnership, and allows for Supplemental Articles to the MOU which will define participation by some or all of the partners in further activities. The Partnership has already developed and approved Supplemental Article #1 to contract with the Triangle J Council of Governments to conduct a Regional Water Supply Planning Project. Supplemental Article #2, which defines terms for the Jordan Lake Allocation Request Project, was also developed and approved. In support of the current projects and in order to fully assess the current abilities of water providers in the region to transfer treated drinking water from one system to another, a study of the existing interconnections and the volumes that can be transferred is needed. This information will be utilized to support the needs assessment portion of the Regional Water Supply plan currently under development. The Department of Water Management for the City of Durham is the fiscal agent for the Jordan Lake Partnership and has taken responsibility for developing and executing a contract with Hazen and Sawyer to evaluate the interconnections between the various entities that comprise the membership of the Jordan Lake Partners. By mutual agreement of the Jordan Lake Partners, Town of Cary professional staff will manage the technical efforts associated with this task.

## **Recommendations:**

The administration recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute Supplemental Article #3 and authorize the execution of a contract with Hazen and Sawyer in the amount of \$80,000. Durham, as the contracting agency, must

commit funds to cover the cost of the contract but will be reimbursed by participating partners for all but \$10,432 – Durham's share per Supplemental Article 3.

### **Background:**

In March 2008, Durham City Council adopted a Resolution Supporting Regional Partnerships for Water Supply Planning and the Establishment of a Western Water Intake on the B. Everett Jordan Reservoir. The City committed to taking a leadership role in a partnership for regional water supply planning and to work with its potential partners in the establishment of a western Jordan Lake water intake and possibly build an associated water treatment facility. Further, the City committed to proceed with the negotiation of Interlocal Agreements to accomplish the activities of the Partnership. The Memorandum of Understanding was approved by Durham City Council at the February 16, 2009 Council meeting and has been approved by 12 additional partnering jurisdictions: towns of Apex, Cary, Hillsborough, Holly Springs, Morrisville and Pittsboro, Chatham County, Orange County, Wake County, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), and the cities of Sanford and Raleigh.

As the lead agency, the City of Durham Department of Water Management serves as the Partnership's fiscal agent. Via this mechanism, the Partnership has engaged the services of the Water Resources Planning group at Triangle J Council of Governments to develop a comprehensive regional water supply plan and Fountainworks, LLC to provide meeting facilitation services and administrative and governmental support. The work to be provided by Hazen and Sawyer will support the water resource planning effort by cataloguing and compiling a complete list of existing and planned interconnections and the volumes of water that can be transferred through the interconnections to various regional entities among other tasks outlined in the attached scope.

## **Issues and Analysis:**

Hazen and Sawyer has conducted a number of relevant study for the local entities involved in the Jordan Lake Partnership and due to their special circumstances and expertise, they are the best choice to conduct this work. The partners noted that since portions of the necessary data had already been gathered and reported by Hazen and Sawyer, retaining them for the full study would expedite the process. The partners agreed that no further evaluation was necessary of alternate choices and directed Durham to proceed with developing a contract with Hazen and Sawyer for the study. The partners also agreed that technical staff with the Town of Cary would direct the technical activities of the contractor.

The scope of work provided in Attachment A meets the needs of the water resources planning efforts and was developed in coordination with the Partners and Hazen and Sawyer. Further work may be required in a second phase to assess delivery capabilities of the interconnections and to develop a prioritized list of projects to increase cooperative abilities during water shortages due to drought and other emergencies.

#### **Alternatives:**

<u>Alternative 1:</u> Do not enter in to a contract with Hazen and Sawyer and attempt to do the work with personnel provided by the partners. None of the Partners have the technical staff time necessary to devote to the project or the software to evaluate all

the interconnections among the Partners. Not conducting the study to submit in support of the Regional Needs Assessment could impact the State's decision to award additional allocations to requesting Jordan Lake Partners.

# **Financial Impacts:**

Funds for this contract are budgeted in the Jordan Lake Capital Projects account 4100P007-731004-P0610. There are currently funds available for this project.

# **SDBE Summary:**

No SDBE goals are required for this project.